

U.S. congressman found dead

NEW AUGUSTA, Mississippi (AP) — U.S. Congressman Larkin Smith was found dead Monday in the wreckage of a small plane that crashed in a forest, authorities said. The plane carrying the freshman Republican congressman and his pilot disappeared from radar screens about Sunday night and was found early Monday. Two bodies were taken from the wreckage, said officials of the Harrison County sheriff's office. Rescuers spotted the wreckage from the air, and searchers struggled through heavy woods to reach the site 30 kilometers south of Hattiesburg, said C.R. Easterling, spokesman for the Perry County sheriff's department. The plane carried the congressman and his pilot, Chuck Vierling. Smith, 45, a freshman who succeeded Republican Trent Lott, now a U.S. senator, was returning home to Gulfport from Hattiesburg Sunday when the plane disappeared from the radar screens, said Charles Bushy, Smith's press secretary. Smith, a graduate of William Carey College, was a former police chief in Gulfport and was sheriff of Harrison County before being elected to Congress in November.

Jordan Times

An independent English-language political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جريدة الأردن للدراسات والنشر بالإنجليزية عن مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Volume 14 Number 4161

AMMAN TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1989, MUHARRAM 13, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Artillery duels continue in Beirut; preparations seen for another major assault

Jordan calls for urgent Arab effort in Lebanon

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan Monday called on Arab leaders to exert urgent efforts towards ending the violence in Lebanon and warned that the embattled country had reached "the stage of perpetual danger with signs of foreign intervention to save an Arab country at a time when it is more appropriate for the Arabs to go to its help."

The Jordanian statement, issued by an official spokesman and carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, came as artillery duels continued in the Lebanese capital, Beirut, and rival forces were reported massing forces in what was seen as preparations for another major clash.

The Jordanian statement said: "Israel is awaiting a suitable opportunity to achieve further gains at the expense of Arab rights and land. The continuation of the (Lebanese) tragedy, will make the whole region subject to the threat of balkanisation and disintegration, leading to foiling the Palestinian intifada, to diverting attention from Israel's oppressive measures against the Palestinian people and to depriving the Arabs and Muslims from their rights to restore sovereignty over Jerusalem and the holy Islamic and Christian places."

The spokesman said the Jordani

nian leadership and people were extremely worried and concerned over the situation in Lebanon, and voiced the Kingdom's "annoyance, denunciation and condemnation of the grave escalation of the situation."

The spokesman also reviewed Jordan's contribution to the efforts of a six-member Arab ministerial panel which sought to end the civil war in Lebanon.

"Jordan continued to support every sincere Arab effort to arrive at a final and honourable settlement of the Lebanese problem by presenting clear and objective proposals to the Arab summit held in Casablanca," the spokesman said. "Based on this stand, Jordan supported the formation of the tripartite Arab committee entrusted with ending the crisis and ensuring Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

In Beirut, Syrian and allied militiamen shelled the besieged rightist enclave Monday while troops and armour were reported massing in the mountains overlooking Beirut for what rightist

say will be a new attempt to break through their strongholds.

Police reported three people

were killed and 12 wounded in the shelling, the fifth straight day of bombardment that has left much of Beirut a smoldering,

deserted ruin.

Police reported that 50,000 fled

the devastated capital already

abandoned by more than 85 per cent of its 1.5 million population in recent weeks.

Monday's casualties raised the overall toll since fighting erupted March 8 to 736 killed and 1,896 wounded.

At least 37 civilians were killed and 120 wounded between midnight Saturday and midnight Sunday.

As shells crashed around his shattered presidential palace, army commander Michel Aoun, vowed to fight on until Syrian troops were forced out of Lebanon.

"There will be no ceasefire unless it is linked to a timetable for a Syrian pullout from Lebanon," Aoun told Reuters from a bunker at the palace in east Beirut.

In a telephone interview punctuated by the sound of shellbursts, he said he had enough weapons to fight a long war but he did not expect it to last for long.

"We are coming to the point of the withdrawal of the last Syrian soldier from Lebanon," Aoun said. He did not elaborate.

Artillery duels have been rag-

ing since Aoun five months ago declared a "war of liberation" to expel Syria's estimated 33,000 troops, but they reached a new intensity Thursday.

On Sunday pro-Syrian forces launched the first major ground attack of the campaign, across the

Souk Al Ghurb mountain ridge which overlooks Lebanon's rightist enclave.

Syria, allied to Lebanese Druze Muslim and leftist militias, denies its own troops took part in the battle. Independent security sources said 28 Syrians were killed.

"We are not fond of war and it's not our hobby," Aoun said. "We are fighting for freedom, sovereignty and peace."

Sources at Aoun's headquarters said that the Syrian National Socialist Party (SSNP), another Damascus ally, was mustering its forces with Syrian regulars in the reported buildup at Douar, east of Beirut.

The SSNP, composed mainly of leftist Greek Orthodox fighters long hostile to the Maronite Catholics who dominate the Christian camp, has stayed out of the fighting until now.

"The Syrians are bringing in T-62 tanks and dozens of mortars of various calibers to positions overlooking Douar," the spokesman said.

Douar is a major military position held by elements of Aoun's 10th commando brigade. It lies astride the main road through the central mountains from the Beqaa Valley in east Lebanon.

Souk Al Ghurb, 18 kilometres southwest of Douar, was heavily shelled again Monday and Aoun's aides said the rightists

were bracing for another assault.

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The outburst from an Iranian leader who has been considered one of the country's so-called moderates underlined the divisions in Tehran over whether Iran should move to help free the hostages.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, reported in a commentary late Sunday that Tehran was "ready to use its maximum influence for the release of all hostages" if the United States freed Iranian assets worth billions of dollars it froze 10 years ago.

But Tehran Radio, also monitored in Cyprus, quoted Khamenei as saying that no Iranian leader would negotiate with the Americans and said U.S. conditions for a dialogue with Tehran were "ridiculous."

Addressing relatives of Iranian prisoners of war held by Iraq and soldiers missing in action in the Gulf war, he said: "In Lebanon, America commits the greatest atrocities and encourage its puppet Israel in kidnapping and hostage-taking."

He was referring to the July 28

abduction by Israeli commandos of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a leader of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God), and two associates.

Khamenei did not specifically mention the 16 Westerners kidnapped in Lebanon, most of them by Iranian-backed Muslim fundamentalists.

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Lack of data on hostages — legacy of CIA disasters, kidnappers' secretiveness

By Ruth Sinai
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In its heyday in Lebanon, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) station in Beirut counted on its roster of assets an exotic array of Lebanese politicians and generals, dozens of agents from other countries and a handful of Palestinians.

The CIA was even able to use information gleaned from Palestinian contacts to foil planned kidnappings and killings of Americans, experts say.

But over the past 10 years, U.S. intelligence capabilities in Lebanon have eroded to such an extent that the CIA cannot obtain enough information to pinpoint the location of eight American hostages, according to specialists.

The dearth of intelligence about the hostages and their Iranian-allied captors is in part the legacy of string of disasters that has boudined CIA operations in Lebanon, partly because of the clannish nature and zealousness of the kidnappers, officials and experts say.

"We don't have adequate information on where they live, operate, train," said Robert McFarlane, the former national security adviser who helped plan the desperate White House scheme to free the hostages by selling weapons to Iran in 1983-86.

Under ideal conditions,

he said in an interview, the CIA would recruit native Lebanese or Americans of Lebanese origin to infiltrate the hostage-takers and report on their activities.

But Hezbollah, the name of the umbrella group under whose auspices the captors operate, defies penetration, said Senator David Boren, chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

"These little cells, these units, are like organized-crime families," he said in an interview. "Strangers are easily spotted, even if they're Lebanese."

Marius Deeb, a Lebanese who taught political science at the American University of Beirut (AUB) for many years, thinks many Lebanese would be willing to divulge information to the United States about the kidnappers.

"But they're terrorized. They're scared. They have to know for sure that if they give information, their life will be protected," Deeb said.

Such protection is impossible to guarantee in the chaos of a country splintered by 14 years of civil war and foreign occupation. And the history of CIA operations in Lebanon has not been reassuring.

For example, soon after the agency's Beirut station chief, William Buckley, was kidnapped outside his home in 1984, some of the CIA's Lebanese

agents were murdered or disappeared, according to David Martin and John Walcott, co-authors of "Best Laid Plans." The book traces the administration's attempts to fight extremism in the Middle East.

U.S. officials believe Buckley revealed many secrets under harsh torture, possibly in Iran, before being killed. His body has not been recovered, but Iranian intermediaries offered to produce the alleged confession during their weapons negotiations with the United States in 1986.

Buckley's kidnapping was the second time in a year that the CIA lost almost its entire Beirut operation.

On April 18, 1983, a car-bomb explosion demolished much of the U.S. embassy in Beirut, just as the CIA's chief Middle East analyst, Robert Ames, convened a staff meeting in his office. Ames was one of 16 Americans killed, along with station chief Kenneth Haas, according to the book by Martin and Walcott.

Martin and Walcott say the blast wiped out all but two of the agency's staff in Beirut. "Ames had for many years handled the CIA's extensive secret contacts with the PLO, which, both unwittingly and unwittingly, had served as one of the agency's primary sources of intelligence about terrorist attacks against Americans," they wrote.

David Ignatius, a Washington Post editor who has written a fictionalized account of the secret U.S. channel to the PLO, cites Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon and the forced exile of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat from Beirut as the turning point of the CIA's fortunes.

"As Lebanon became more anarchic and new groups emerged with which we had no contact, the old board was broken and we never really learned to play on the new one," Ignatius said.

Sources said the CIA was dealt another blow last December when Matthew K. Gamon, an agency official who had been on temporary duty in Beirut, was killed in the explosion of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland, believed to have been caused by a bomb.

McFarlane and others familiar with intelligence operations suggest the CIA's ability to operate in Lebanon also was hampered by a decision 12 years ago by former agency chief Stanislaw Turner to concentrate more on technical intelligence gathering, through satellites and electronic interceptions.

The late CIA director William Casey "faced great resistance within the agency and the intelligence community when he tried to expand human collection" of intelligence, McFarlane said.

That was one of the reasons



The devastated American embassy in Beirut after the April 18, 1983, bomb attack. The suicide assault killed two key officials of the Central Intelligence Agency.

he turned outside the agency — to former White House aide Oliver North — when he tried to find out what had happened to the American hostages in Lebanon and how they could be freed. North's dealings with Iran, including sales of U.S.-made missiles brought about

the release of two hostages in 1986.

Officials and lawmakers in Washington appear resigned to the virtual impossibility of running an effective intelligence operation in the anarchy of Lebanon, although they keep trying.

In the past two weeks, Mohaddeshi has publicly contradicted Rafsanjani's view that negotiations can resolve major external problems, such as the detention of Western hostages by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon and better relations with

Iran. The sources said Islamic purists pushed to get the Foreign Ministry for outgoing Prime Minister Mir-Hosseini Mousavi, but Rafsanjani appeared to have blocked this by retaining the experienced Ali Akbar Velayati in the post.

Velayati had been tipped for vice-president but the sources said the compromise candidate for this was now Hassan Ebrihi Habibi, a French-trained, former justice minister.

Habibi is generally regarded as acceptable to all but has no large power base, they said.

"Sometimes the Muj (Mujahideen) take a hit but most of the time they pick up these little places," he said, referring to villages and minor roads.

Compromise reported over Iran government

DUBAI (R) — Iran's leaders have reached last-minute compromise on forming a new government without creating an open split between moderates and radicals, Iranian political sources in the region said Monday.

At a meeting late Sunday, President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani retained power over the Foreign Ministry and the important economic ministries, said the sources, who are close to senior parliamentarians in Tehran.

But Ahmed Khomeini, son of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and a rallying point for those leaders who put Islamic ideals above all else, insisted that outspoken Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohaddeshi must stay, they said.

When parliament reconvenes Tuesday after the presidential elections July 28, Khomeini is guaranteed Rafsanjani's old job of house speaker in a deal agreed following his father's death in June, political analysts said.

Rafsanjani is expected to present the names of his new cabinet to parliament shortly after it reopens.

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ed in the Iran-Iraq war and which he supervised as prime minister.

The Islamic purists, generally dubbed radicals by outside political analysts, have strong ideological objections to many of the free-market solutions available to revive Iran's crippled economy.

Rafsanjani, who said he

will focus on economic reconstruction, is expected to retain his men at the finance, industry and oil ministries, and give like-minded men the commerce and reconstruction portfolios.

Bur Western political analysts said his ability to move quickly depended heavily on avoiding or suppressing objections from the

purists.

They said Rafsanjani, who has strong parliamentary support, might still try to arrange a vote of no confidence in the appointment of Mohaddeshi, who was only narrowly endorsed by parliament as a minister last year.

New spiritual leader Ali Khamenei has also posed a possible problem by suggesting that he, as Iran's Islamic guide, should have an ambassador at large, Iranian political analysts said.

Khamenei has said the living

standards of the people must be improved but he has adopted some of Khomeini's more rigid views on the way to achieve this,

U.S. commitment to Afghan Mujahedeen may be waning

By Carol Giacomo
Reuter

WASHINGTON — There are signs that American support for the anti-communist Mujahedeen rebels in Afghanistan may be weakening.

Officially, U.S. policy has not changed. Privately, however, administration officials say it will be difficult to continue supplying the rebels with weapons while they use them to fight each other rather than the Soviet-backed

government in Kabul.

"Both (U.S. political) parties have supported the resistance, but there is a danger that would erode over time if there is no progress militarily and politically," said one senior official, who asked not to be named.

Congressmen are now openly suggesting that Washington should cut off military aid and pressure the rebels to accept a political settlement.

"Supplying military aid to the Afghan rebels is no longer in our

interest now that the Soviets have withdrawn," Anthony Beilenson, chairman of the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee, wrote recently.

"Now that we have achieved our goal (the withdrawal of Soviet troops), we ought to get out of Afghanistan before our foreign policy success turns into a disaster," he said.

U.S. officials now admit that they were overly optimistic in predicting the rapid collapse of the Kabul regime once the Soviet

troops completed their pullout in February.

Their concern increased with the rebels' failure to capture the eastern city of Jalalabad this spring, prompting Washington to increase military aid to the Mujahedeen.

Concern gave way to dismay when reports began filtering back of feuds and fighting among rival guerrilla groups that threaten to destroy their fragile coalition.

One group, the Jamiat-i-Islami, claimed that 30 of its fighters

were killed in July by Hezb-i-Islami, one of its coalition partners, Hezb-i-Islami denies this.

The State Department warned Mujahedeen leaders that "over time, things like this erode support for the resistance in the West... people do not want to send help if this is the way help is going to be used."

But at least one rebel military commander told the Americans that factionalism had long been an Afghan trait. The July massacre was "a fact of life of Afghan society. You're going to have local incidents like this."

Despite the State Department's reproach, the Mujahedeen can still count on some firm allies in Washington.

The senior official believes the Mujahedeen have made important gains over the past year that have gone unnoticed.

"Sometimes the Muj (Mujahideen) take a hit but most of the time they pick up these little places," he said, referring to villages and minor roads.

Prince Sultan 'brings back the stars' to Saudi Arabia

By Norman S. Holmes

WASHINGTON — For Saudi Arabia, the next important frontier is space, according to the youngest astronaut ever to fly on a U.S. space mission, astronaut Prince Sultan Bin Salman Bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud.

Prince Sultan, since his 17,000-mile flight as a crewmember on the U.S. space shuttle "Discovery" in 1985, has become the link between ancient Arab astronomers who mapped the stars and dreamed of touching them and a new generation who will.

"I definitely will return to space one day," the now thirty-two year old Prince Sultan said in a USA Today interview. But he quickly added "there are many others who also keep in shape and will be going up before I do, I'm sure." He said because of the expense of space exploration "the future of space travel lies in international cooperation, rather than one country efforts."

In the United States to help launch the exhibition "Saudi Arabia Yesterday and Today" on its one year tour of U.S. cities, the pilot prince said his Discovery flight in June of 1985 has spurred scientific and technological development and a generation aspiring to the stars throughout Saudi Arabia and the Arab Gulf region. "It opened a very huge door to the future in Saudi Arabia — a huge door into space, space travel and space technology," the astronaut said at a film

presentation about his space mission held at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington. Perhaps the greatest impact of Discovery can be seen in the field of education, the Arab astronaut noted. He said in 1984 there were about 20,000 students throughout Saudi Arabia at every level of education from kindergarten to university. "Today we have something like a million and a half people going to school."

"For our people to just be exposed to such a programme was a tremendous experience," the prince said, adding that the 20th century section of the "Saudi Arabia Yesterday and Today" exhibition demonstrates that Saudi Arabia today is "utilising to the fullest extent" the spinoff from space research in every field of technology today, including medicine, hospitals, communications, and research.

In the 20th century section of the exhibition viewers discover for themselves what Prince Sultan does not say: that in Riyadh the king, Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, has called for the establishment of a great astronomical complex and scientific settlement in the name of Prince Sultan.

Another impact of his flight on the Arab World, the prince told his avid Smithsonian audience, is that "something like a thousand million people were exposed to this Saudi Arabian-American experience." Prince Sultan said in the Gulf and the Islamic world "hundreds of millions of people

were glued to their television sets day and night. We had really extensive coverage."

Discovery 51-G, launched 17 June, 1985, and the 18th flight of the U.S. space shuttle programme was international in both crew and payload. It carried the first French and the first Arab payload specialists and a cargo including American, Mexican and Arab domestic communications satellites. The Arab astronaut was one of a crew of seven on the mission, commanded by veteran pilot Daniel Brandenstein, now head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) astronaut training office in Houston.

He was joined by pilot John Creighton, and mission specialists Shannon Lucid, Steven Nagel and John Fabian, and French payload specialist Patrick Baudry, who carried out biomedical experiments similar to those flown by a French cosmonaut aboard a Soviet-manned mission.

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Launch Control Centre in Washington, D.C. The rectangular spacecraft, its gold and solar panels glistening against a cerulean sky, continues to provide telecommunications links for the Arab World, the prince said.

During the seven-day mission, the Saudi pilot conducted 70 mm photographic studies for Saudi research institute scientists at the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran. In another experiment, the astronaut placed various concentrations of Saudi, Kuwaiti and Algerian oils mixed with water in a 15-chamber plexiglass container. The oil-water combinations, which do not mix in Earth's atmosphere, are being studied by research institute investigators and the Marshall Space Flight Centre in Huntsville, Alabama in an effort to shed light on the process of behaviour of oil recovery and pollution. Prince Sultan also participated in the French "Postural" Experiment (FPE) on the response to weightlessness of the cardiovascular and sensorimotor systems, which has helped scientists better understand the human body's adaptation to space.

Because events moved so rapidly during the flight there was no time to consciously form impressions of space, he said, "but when I came back, my impressions were very, very strong: To see the boundaries of earth, to see depth of space — the black is not just a black colour we see here. It

doesn't feel like a black background — it feels infinity, like something endless."

As he photographed Saudi Arabia during Discovery's 49 daylight passes over its southwestern region, Prince Sultan said his own concepts of global geography were profoundly changed. The "lines and boundaries" of countries had been so stressed by teachers in studies throughout his childhood "I had (almost) begun to actually believe these things (lines) existed physically." When he saw the view of Earth from space, he said "as I rode between one country and another I wondered 'where are those lines I have been hearing of?' "

All of the Discovery crew seemed to focus on viewing their own country during the first days of the flight he noted. "Patrick (Baudry) kept showing us Africa because he was born in Africa," he said, and during the time of the mission, fires were burning throughout Africa. "We could see thousands of fires, it just breaks your heart."

"I kept showing people Saudi Arabia and the Gulf. We used to see the sun rise and sun set about 16 times a day — about every 45 minutes." About the fourth day into the mission, the astronaut said a "noticeable change" began taking place as the crew in their studies began to view the world as a whole. "By the end of the mission, we all had agreement, we saw just one planet. When

you go into space once, you really leave a little bit of you up there. I have a long distance contact there now," Prince Sultan told his Smithsonian audience. "I just close my eyes every time I want to go back. There's a little bit of me up there just looking at things that never disappear..."

As a pilot, Prince Sultan says he continues to read maps but after that experience "I could never rebuild that same definition of borders." Three months after the flight he came home to Saudi Arabia, but was invited to return to the United States at the invitation of President Reagan for a visit to the White House. "And I did something really stupid," he told the youngsters. "I forgot my passport back home — but then, I'd been around the world 111 times in a week. We kept going into and out of countries so fast — why should I need a passport?"

Responding to questions from students and their parents, the prince told the science enthusiasts "I was more scared of the alligators when I used to run at 4 o'clock in the morning in Florida" during training than of blasting off into space. "Someone told me they could run faster than humans." He added that he had had "some of the most wonderful times of my life" in the NASA complex in which astronauts train.

One aspect of the mission he said he had not been prepared for was his return from space 7 days later. "Back home, we're not

left Riyadh, had said to me, "bring us back the stars," the prince said.

"As I ended our conversation from space I asked him 'would you

Pakistanis mark 42 years of independence

AMMAN (J.T.) — Pakistan's 42nd independence anniversary was celebrated at the grounds of the Pakistani embassy in Amman Monday with the presence of Pakistan's ambassador to Jordan, Saghir Hussain Syed, and members of the Pakistani community in the Kingdom.

The Pakistani flag was hoisted to the national tunes at the outset of the celebration which included several speeches delivered by prominent members of the Pakistani community in Jordan.

The speakers outlined the long struggle of the Pakistani people for freedom and independence and also the great achievements accomplished in Pakistan since Independence Day in 1947.

The Pakistani ambassador also delivered an address on the occasion, outlining the new Pakistani government's programmes towards achieving the aspirations of the Pakistani people.

The ambassador voiced his country's total support for the



Saghir Hussain Syed

Palestinian people's struggle in the Israeli occupied Arab lands and their endeavours to establish an independent Palestinian state.

He also commended the strong ties between Pakistan and Jordan and paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein for his role in bolstering bilateral relations.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES INDIA, S. KOREA: His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable of good wishes to Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataaraman on his country's independence anniversary. He also sent a cable of good wishes to South Korea's President Roh Tae Woo on his country's National Day. The cables wished the Indian and Korean presidents continued good health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Indian and South Korean people. (Petra)

BILBEISI HONOURED: A Royal Decree has been issued bestowing on former Health Minister Secretary General Dr. Anwar Bilbeisi the Al Nahda Medal of the Second Order in appreciation of his services in the field of health for thirty years (Petra).

LAWZI RECEIVES SUDANESE ENVOY: Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi held a meeting in his office Monday with Sudan's ambassador to Jordan Mahjoub Radwan whose tour of duty in Jordan has ended. They reviewed scopes of cooperation between Sudan and Jordan in different fields. (Petra)

KHAYYAT MEETS DEPARTMENT HEADS: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Monday held talks with directors of the Awqaf departments in the various districts and governorates. During the meeting, Khayyat called for enlightening the citizens about means to surmount the economic problems and urged the citizens to resort to rationalisation. (Petra)

KHAMMASH VISITS CAA: Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat Khammash Monday visited the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) where he was briefed on the authority's achievements. He also visited a number of CAA departments, Queen Alia International Airport, and Queen Noor Civil Aviation Technical College. He was accompanied by Transport and Telecommunication Minister Secretary General Mohammad Snaidi. (Petra)

KEILANI RECEIVES ROMANIAN ENVOY: Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Keilani Monday received Romanian Ambassador in Amman Dimitrie Stanescu. The discussions touched on bilateral relations in the fields of water and irrigation as well as means to develop them. (Petra)

PLAN FOR PLANTING 2 MILLION TREES: A meeting was held at the Ministry of Education Monday, to discuss matters pertaining to the projected plan for planting two million trees in the coming agricultural season around the country. The project, which will be implemented with the help of more than 200,000 students, is designed to help green Jordan, according to Ministry of Education sources. Ministers of Education and Agriculture as well as representatives of the ministries of water and irrigation, planning, public works and the lands and survey department were present at the meeting. (Petra)

PILGRIMAGE COMMITTEE MEETS: The pilgrimage committee held a meeting Monday under the chairmanship of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Secretary General Dr. Ahmad Hilayil and adopted measures to further facilitate pilgrimage to the holy places. (Petra)

KUWAITI TEAM VISITS UNIVERSITY: A student delegation representing the Kuwaiti Scientific Club Monday visited the University of Jordan library and listened to a briefing on the library's contents and its role in enriching cultural life in Jordan. The delegation also toured other facilities. (Petra)

No new AIDS cases reported since July 1

AMMAN (J.T.) — No new cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) have been reported to the Health Ministry since the beginning of July 1989, and the total number of people affected by the killing disease since it was first reported in Jordan is 31 including six deaths.

This was announced by Dr. Han Shammour, director of the Health Ministry's Communicable Diseases Department, who said that two of the deaths occurred outside Jordan over the past two years.

Most of the victims, he said, have received blood transfusion abroad prior to 1983, the date when Jordan stopped importing blood.

In April 1989, the number of AIDS cases in Jordan stood at 25 and Shammour was quoted as saying that the Health Ministry expected the total number of AIDS cases in the Kingdom to reach 35 by the end of 1989.

He said that, according to medical reports two of the present AIDS carriers were likely to die during this year.

He noted that the problem was now under control since the ministry has imposed a ban on the importation of blood, and through the help of a national committee which maintains a public awareness campaign, providing information on means of avoiding protection from the disease.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* A plastic art exhibition by Jordanian Artist Maha Abu 'Ayyash at the Plastic Artists Association, Shmeissani.

POETRY RECITAL

* Poetry recital by Arab poet Mamduh Al Edwan at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

FILMS

* A German film entitled "Das Brot des Backers" (The Baker's Bread), English subtitled, at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

* Part III of the American Centre's series "The Power Game" under the title "The Unselected" — 7:00 p.m.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday arrives at the Vocational Training Corporation in Amman (Petra photo)

Queen Noor lauds VTC efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday visited the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) at the Ministry of Labour, where she was received by the minister of labour and president of the VTC administrative council, Dr. Jamal Bdour, the director general of the Urban Development Department, Dr. Hisham Al Zaqqa, and the director general of the VTC, Dr. Burhan Shraydeh.

In the course of the meeting at the VTC, Bdour thanked Queen Noor for her continued and active involvement in development issues.

The Minister identified the main problems facing the Corporation today and outlined their solution. He pointed out the insufficient level of coordination between the various institutions involved in vocational training, in both the public and the private sectors, and emphasised the need for a closer cooperation between them to achieve more efficiency and avoid a fragmentation of efforts.

"Another difficulty is the feeble participation of the private sector, particularly the professional unions, in matters related

to training," Dr. Bdour said. He stressed the importance of adopting a comprehensive national system and pointed out the fundamental role which the VTC could play within such a system, in reducing unemployment, providing a work-force trained to meet the needs of national development plans and in dealing with negative social attitudes towards certain types of professions.

Zaghya described the close cooperation between the VTC and the Urban Development Department, while Shraydeh outlined the aims, accomplishments and aspirations of the VTC. Also attending the meeting were six VTC department directors.

Established in 1976 to meet an increased demand for skilled manpower and need to organise vocational work in Jordan, the VTC has opened, since its inception, several training centres for men and women in various parts of the Kingdom, an Instructor and Supervisory Training Institute and an Occupational Safety and Health Institute.

The numerous vocational training programmes which the Corporation initiated include long-term apprenticeship programmes, medium and short-term training courses in fields such as maintenance and repair of electrical and mechanical equipment, carpentry, masonry, metal welding, farming, hotel services, sewing, knitting, typing, ceramics, hair grooming, and the making of artificial flowers and soft toys.

Queen Noor lauded the VTC's efforts and expressed her support for training programmes which "allow trainees, once they have acquired the necessary skills, to increase their income-earning power, and provide women in particular with wider opportunities to contribute to Jordan's development efforts."

Accompanied by Dr. Bdour, Queen Noor then proceeded to Al Manara Women's Training Centre/Urban Development Project, run by the VTC.

Her Majesty was greeted by the Centre's Director, Mrs. Malak Al Khatib, and briefed about the centre's activities which include short-term courses in sewing, typing, knitting, the making of artificial flowers as well as soft toys and ceramics.

of the federation's higher council, as well as a pan-Arab strategy to help eliminate the smoking habit from the Arab World, will be discussed by delegates at the three-day meeting, the spokesman said.

The conference, to be held between Sept. 2 and 4, hopes to pool Arab countries' efforts to fight the smoking habit through spreading awareness at the widest possible scale and through consistent campaigns in the media. A general review of the topics to be discussed at the coming conference was reviewed by the preparatory committee which met Sunday evening at the head office of the Jordanian National Anti-Smoking Society, which is organising the conference in cooperation with the Health Ministry, the Council of Arab Health Ministers and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

A committee spokesman said that 11 Arab states have already declared their readiness to take part in the conference which also aims to establish a pan-Arab anti-smoking federation.

The conference, which will be held under the slogan "Towards an Anti-Smoking Arab Society," aims to unify and coordinate efforts in the Arab World to combat smoking and to provide protection from the dangers of smoking to the young generation and the non-smoking population, the spokesman added.

Addressing a press conference earlier this month to announce the conference, the committee Chairman Mohammad Shrein said that special focus will be made at the coming meeting on the adverse effects of smoking on economic and social development and the well-being of individuals and the Arab community at large.

Several working papers dealing with laws and regulations that would help to stem the smoking habit and the terms of reference

of the federation's higher council, as well as a pan-Arab strategy to help eliminate the smoking habit from the Arab World, will be discussed by delegates at the three-day meeting, the spokesman said.

The announcement was made one day after a warning by President of the Jordan Pharmacists Association (JPA) Tayseer Al Himsi that drugstores are running out of medicine and that no arrangements have been made for the importation of essential drugs.

Himsi told a press conference here that many drugstores are selling what remained in their stocks with the purpose of liquidating their business, and laying off their staff.

He urged speedy measure to be taken on the part of the government to deal with the problem and to organise the pharmaceutical industry's operations.

Himsi referred to a recent Health Ministry statement which authorised the drugstores to import only five per cent of the country's needs of drugs and which failed to come up with arrangements for the rest of the medicines.

"The drugstores find themselves unable to deal with the problem and unable to import

Keilani inspects Jordan Valley dams

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani Monday made inspection tours of the Kafrain and Hisban dams in the Jordan Valley region and discussed with engineers and experts the prospect of laying an iron-pipeline to drain away salty water from the Hisban region.

Later Monday the minister discussed the prospect of laying a pipeline to pump water to an artificial lake in Kafrain to use water for irrigating additional areas of land in the region.

The visit came in the course of the minister's inspection tour of agricultural areas in the Jordan Valley and one day after a report on contaminated water found in the River Jordan.

A report in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily said that water drawn from the river was found to be contaminated and indications point to pollution coming from Palestinian territories occupied by Israel.

The paper quoted Agriculture Minister Adnan Badran accusing

Israel of polluting the river water by dumping chemical waste in it and in the river tributaries.

He said that water from the River Jordan cannot be used for irrigation because of the high rate of pollution, and that several fisheries in the Jordan Valley region close to the river have now been closed to prevent any dangerous effects.

Badran said that Jordan is observing the situation carefully, and has lodged protest with concerned United Nations organisations.

According to the paper, the Jordan Valley Authority has collected several samples of the river water for analysis.

Also Monday, the Minister of Water and Irrigation visited the laboratories and Water Quality Control Department to discuss measures for maintaining control over surface and underground water in Jordan.

The minister inspected the different sections and was briefed on the regular inspection and analysing processes in different areas.

The department director, Raja Jadoun, said that the laboratories test different samples of potable water and water taken from springs, and also examines pollutants present in the wastewater which might leak into drinking water networks.

Over the past seven months, the department conducted 570 tests to determine the type of water used to domestic and industrial purposes. Jadoun noted.

At present, he said, the laboratories are conducting constant testing on water samples taken from the four main water basins which supply Jordanian people with drinking water.

Majali returns from Baghdad talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali returned to Amman from Baghdad Monday after taking part in a four-day meeting by the Ministers of Information from the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries.

The meeting adopted a joint ACC informational strategy which envisages the employment of all available facilities and information and cultural tools for the purpose of achieving the

ACC goals and objectives." Majali said in a statement upon his return from the meeting.

The strategy calls for mobilising awareness among the public in Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen towards the fulfilment of ACC objectives and envisages pooling ACC information efforts with those of the rest of the Arab world in defending pan-Arab causes and countering hostile propaganda campaigns launched

Ministry of Health issues 64 new licences for drugstores

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Health Monday announced that it has issued licences for 64 new drugstores in the Kingdom to encourage the private sector to ensure essential medicines for the public.

The announcement was made

one day after a warning by President of the Jordan Pharmacists Association (JPA) Tayseer Al Himsi that drugstores are running out of medicine and that no arrangements have been made for the importation of essential drugs.

Himsi told a press conference here that many drugstores are selling what remained in their stocks with the purpose of liquidating their business, and laying off their staff.

He urged speedy measure to be taken on the part of the government to deal with the problem and to organise the pharmaceutical industry's operations.

Himsi referred to a recent Health Ministry statement which authorised the drugstores to import only five per cent of the country's needs of drugs and which failed to come up with arrangements for the rest of the medicines.

"The drugstores find themselves unable to deal with the problem and unable to import

medicine in view of the decline in the value of the dinar against foreign currencies," Himsi noted.

Himsi also said that a lot of imported drugs have been smuggled to other countries in view of the fact that they were being sold at a lower price in Jordan.

Himsi called on the Health Ministry to revise the work of a government-appointed committee to monitor the drug situation in the country and to control importation and sale of the various types of medicines.

He also urged the government to make available sufficient funds for the drugstores to import drugs that can not be manufactured in Jordan.

Jordan gets 5 water tanker trucks from Japan for gardening projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Japan Monday presented five water tanker trucks to Jordan to contribute to efforts by the Greater Amman Municipality in its landscape gardening projects and parks in Amman.

The trucks, estimated to be worth \$326,000, were presented by Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Makoto Watanabe to Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh at a ceremony in Amman.

Rawabdeh thanked the Japanese government for the gift and said that the trucks will contribute to the on-going efforts to

green Jordan.

The ambassador said that the gift was an expression of support by his government for the Amman municipality in its endeavours to plant trees and spread greenery everywhere.

According to a Japanese embassy press release, a Japanese landscape expert, Mr. Ryo Takahashi, has been seconded to Jordan to assist the Greater Amman Municipality in its work since

1985. The presentation ceremony held at the Ain Ghazal Agricultural Nursery, was attended by senior municipality and Japanese embassy officials.

Last week, Japan donated to Jordan planetarium equipment and an astronomical telescope worth almost \$500,000 to promote cultural activities by the Hayat Arts Centre in Amman.

2 training courses in library sciences end

AMMAN (Petra) — Two training courses in library science and the use of mini-computers in libraries ended at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Amman Monday.

The two month courses in which 45 participants from countries in the Gulf Arab states took part, were organised by the public library of the Greater Amman Municipality, the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation and the Jordan Library Association.

Addressing the closing session,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Sfeir expresses deep appreciation and gratitude for all those who extended their sympathy over the death of Dr. George Anton Sfeir

For attending the funeral or visiting the home of the bereaved family to offer condolences. This is a special word of gratitude for all of you and may God preserve your health and well-being.



University of Jordan honours former president

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former President of the University of Jordan Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali was honoured at a ceremony organised by University President Mahmoud Al Samra. Samra succeeded Majali last month

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

جريدة الأردن اليومية независимая ежедневная газета на арабском языке

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Faximile: 661242

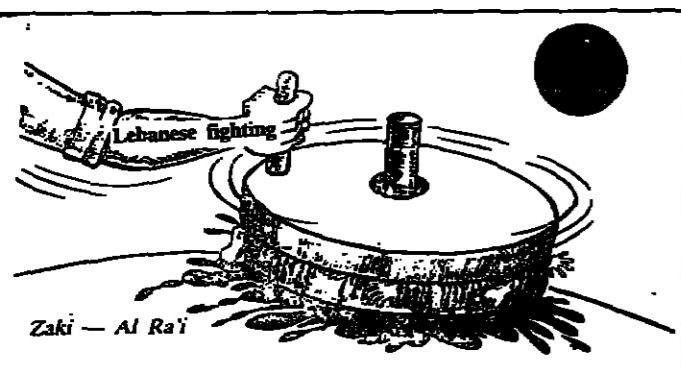
The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Stop the carnage

THE VERY serious escalation of the armed conflict in Lebanon could bring the entire Lebanese conflict into a crescendo. There is no doubt that the intensification of the armed conflict there is a deliberate one aiming to bring the situation in Lebanon into a boil rather than an accidental flare-up that went out of control. Clearly the principal parties have tired of the stalemate in the Lebanese crisis and are now seeking a climax that would settle the dispute one way or another. Yet there is always fear that instead of the desired climax, the ongoing raising of stakes in the armed conflict would only produce an anti-climax. If this is indeed the case, then all the death and destruction invested in the Lebanese arena would have been gambled without achieving the aspired end.

The biggest catastrophe in this big and ominous wager lies in the fact that the very lives of the Lebanese people were the instrument of this farcical and shameful political game. This kind of manipulation and wanton disregard for the welfare and interest of the Lebanese has been going on for too long before the very eyes of the whole world. Perhaps it is still far fetched to expect the Lebanese people of all faiths and ideologies to unite and rise up against their warlords which have been making a mockery of their lives for such a long time. But the day is sure to come when the Lebanese people will decide to take their fate into their own hands and remove those leaders who have been proven responsible for the continuation of the carnage in their country.

But until the day of salvation arrives, it is incumbent on the Arab World to carry out its solemn responsibilities towards Lebanon and its people by convening another summit to put an immediate end to the internece armed conflict there. Otherwise, the international community would be forced to take over that responsibility from the Arabs by default. Accordingly all those parties which dread the internationalisation of the Lebanese crisis, would be well-advised to give the Arab efforts a better chance to succeed. The existing intensification of the fighting in Lebanon between the various competing factions and parties has got to stop. Either the Arab World is given a real opportunity to end at least the military conflict and impose a ceasefire, or it must yield to foreign powers to do the job.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

TWO Jordanian dailies Monday discussed the tragedy in Lebanon. Al Ray daily said that 15 years have passed since the outbreak of the conflict in Lebanon and thousands of people have lost their lives and untold devastation has befallen the Lebanese nation. The ordeal of the Lebanese people and the great pain the Arab World is going through because of the conflict should prompt all Arabs to take speedy moves and bring about a halt to the fighting, the paper said. The Arab Nation should be motivated by humanitarian feelings and should give priority to stopping the war and the destruction, it said. The paper expressed the view that an internationalisation of the Lebanese problem might lead to further tragedies and could be detrimental to the Arab region. What is required now is an immediate action on the part of the Arab League and the Arab states to stop bloodshed because this can pave the ground for a second constructive step. The Lebanese people, the paper added, should not be left alone in this ordeal and the Arabs have a moral and humanitarian obligation towards putting an end to the war machine.

Sawt Al Shabab daily commented on the same topic and said that the Arab League mediation committee is now being urged to resume its aborted mission. No single party in Lebanon can achieve any gains from the continued fighting, and no Arab country would rest while Arab people in Lebanon are being slaughtered for no cause, the paper said. Now that Iran has become a party to the conflict in Lebanon by holding hostages and negotiating with the United States and Israel over their release; and since Israel continues to occupy Lebanon territory, there is urgent need for diplomatic efforts not only on the Arab League's part but also by any party that can influence the conflicting factions and bring about a truce, the paper noted. It said that the French government is now trying to help end the tragedy and there is an urgent need for all peace-loving countries including the Arab states to join forces to stop the bloodshed. The world should never tire of trying to bring about peace and reconciliation to the embattled nation, the paper concluded.

Al Dustour commented on the improvement in the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar against foreign currencies on the local market. The paper paid tribute to the Central Bank's efforts over the past few weeks which ended speculation in the black market and boosted the value of the local currency. The paper quoted monetary circles as saying that Sunday witnessed a flurry of activity in the local market and a rush to sell dollars, thus increasing the supply of the foreign currency in the market and bringing down its value. Thousands of people have now realised that the Jordanian dinar is on its way back to recovery, and is being strengthened; and the Jordanian people are full of hope that the dinar will come out of this crisis very strong and stable, the paper said. It is hoped, said the paper, that the Central Bank will maintain its efforts in ending the blackmarket in Jordan and boosting the value of the national currency.

Namibians struggle for independence

By Glenys Kinnock

THE people of Namibia have suffered the worst of all worlds — a century of particularly ruthless colonialism, decades of apartheid and a brutal war. Now they are on the brink of independence and nationhood. Military, diplomatic, economic and domestic pressures have finally forced South Africa, which has illegally occupied Namibia for 23 years, to sign the Tripartite Accord and put in motion the implementation of United Nations Resolution 435 to set Namibia free.

True to form, however, South Africa and the whites who continue to rule Namibia in great splendour with economic and armed strength are determined that every weakness in the 435 compromise shall be exploited and that the commitment to "free and fair elections" shall be made as hollow as possible by the manipulation and intimidation that are their stock-in-trade.

From inside Namibia those tactics are resisted by the South West Africa People's Organisation — Swapo — which continues to work for a free Namibia and are now seeking a climax that would settle the dispute one way or another. Yet there is always fear that instead of the desired climax, the ongoing raising of stakes in the armed conflict would only produce an anti-climax. If this is indeed the case, then all the death and destruction invested in the Lebanese arena would have been gambled without achieving the aspired end.

That is why I was there with Tessa Blackstone in a British Council of Churches delegation. I felt the outrage which any democrat must feel at the strutting power of the South West African Police Force — Swapo. I felt deep pity and anger at the dire poverty of the mass of Namibian people in their own rich land. I felt frustration and despair when I

spoke to the Afrikaander Administrator-General of Namibia, Mr. Piemar, of the pathetically inadequate health and education facilities for the Black majority and he told me that I must "remember that this is a Third World country after all." He then repeated it, presumably because he thought I might have been misled by the surroundings in which our conversation took place, his lawned and servanted mansion.

And yet, alongside those feelings comes an optimism. It arises from the determination of the Namibian people to be part of the democratic process and the achievement of independence. They walk for hours to register for votes for the election of a Constituent Assembly in November, conscious of the fact that Swapo will have to secure a two-thirds majority if it is to exercise effective democratic authority. Old people are often carried to the registration centres. Women with children shiver for hours in the early morning sub-zero cold waiting for the centres to open and clutching the identification document needed for registration and maintaining a constant sense of menace.

That is their purpose everywhere at all times. When I visited the voter registration point at Eenhana Swapo men were hanging around wearing sidearms. Their pistols — as the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group official there complained — breached the Resolution 435 arrangement. But then, when the building was shaken by an explosion, one of the Swapo men snatched an R4 automatic rifle out of a canvas holdall and raced off to find out the cause of the blast. He returned a short time later to explain that "old mortar

bombs" were being donated at the nearby base and then put his R4 back into the bag, apologising for swearing in front of the white ladies and ignored the protests of the Ghanaian Unang man supervising the registration point.

A regular stream of caskets

return because police were going from house to house asking for them. So they lay listlessly on blankets in an old roofless building, their cardboard boxes containing their entire possessions.

Still the returnees come by the bus-load, brought by the hope of going home and by the knowledge that they can actually vote for their future.

In a country with an estimated 60 per cent illiteracy rate and obviously no experience of democracy, the voting procedure proposes using thumb prints to identify voters who cannot write. Voting will be in secret in a booth. The ballot paper will be put in an envelope carrying the voters' registration number and taken with all other ballot envelopes and files to Windhoek where each signature or thumbprint will be checked against originals taken at registration. The fear of "fixing" is natural and widespread. American Civil Rights lawyers to whom

I spoke in Namibia said that the FBI had told them that accurate fingerprint checking on such a scale was impossible. The opportunities for malpractice are obvious. Mobile voting units may only stop for a short time so many might miss the poll, the process will be overseen by the same Government officials who are regarded as having no record of impartiality under the South African colonial regime and there are frequent reports that the South West Africa Broadcasting Corporation and the 10 "ethnic" radio stations are pumping out State-sponsored propaganda.

Meanwhile, white with qualifications to vote — including four years residence in Namibia (a qualification satisfied by many South African soldiers) or grandparents from Namibia — are crossing into the border areas to register for the franchise.

Against that background, Namibian democracy clearly has to struggle to be born. The draft electoral laws are said to be "straight with opportunity for mischief" and the mischief makers certainly have influence and power.

The patience and resolution of the Namibians are being severely stretched. So is the credibility of the United Nations. There is a widespread feeling that too many concessions have been made to South Africa's personnel and preferences and there is a persistent view that the Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary General is not forced in his dealing with the South Africans.

The situation is difficult. Delicacy as well as determination must obviously feature in the process of divesting the rulers of Namibia of the absolute power which they have wielded for so long. But still, the ability of the United Nations to ensure the peaceful change to independence through free and fair elections is on test. Any South African success in delaying or derailing the change will grievously diminish the authority of the U.N. as well as prolonging the injustice, poverty and oppression of the people of Namibia — The Garrison.

OPEN FORUM

Why deprive children of their childhood?

AFTER years of studying the principles of early childhood education, and after years of observing these principles in practice, I am very convinced that kindergarten children should be provided with a nurturing atmosphere that is natural to the needs of childhood.

Children need to play and through play they learn many things necessary to prepare them for life. They learn to share, to get along with others and to imitate their parents and teachers.

Watch a child at play and you will see that for the child it is not play at all, because he or she takes it very seriously indeed. Observe a four-year-old preparing a make-believe dinner. Listen to the conversation and watch the routine being followed. Or look at the five-year-old building a road in the sand for cars or a city out of blocks. This is serious business to the child.

When adults try to deprive children of this play by forcing them to start formal learning too soon, they are preventing youngsters from a really important part of learning. In a way this emphasis upon academic learning is understandable since in the world of today there is so much pressure on everybody to do well, to make more money, to have the best grades and the most material possessions — but does this pressure have to be put on our children of four or five years old? Does life depend upon their learning to read and write in kindergarten before they have had a chance to mature and experience the joys of childhood? Do the educators, who have supposedly studied the needs of early childhood, have to give in to the increased demands of difficult world and impose pressure to learn formally on babies?

There are, fortunately, a few kindergartens left that provide a proper atmosphere for their children by allowing them to sing songs, play games, build cities, paint, bake cakes and learn about numbers and letters in a practical, relaxed way. But the kindergartens based on the principles of early childhood education are becoming fewer, and those which keep children from their "work" and force them to sit at tables copying letters with little fingers are increasing. These kindergartens are for adults — not for children.

It's really a shame that learned adults are losing sight of the important things in life and are turning our precious children into nail-biting, diffident, nervous little adults.

Please, parents and teachers, LET THEM BE CHILDREN. At least until they are six years old.

Dr. Sue Dafarah

Director

The Abdul Hamid Sharaf School

A way to soothe Israeli fears

By John V. Whitbeck

SINCE the recent events in China, the people of Hong Kong have been loudly demanding an "insurance policy" in the form of a right of residence in Britain. It is argued that such a right would not provoke any massive emigration of people from Hong Kong but rather would give them the confidence necessary to risk trying to make their society work in the changed circumstances after 1997.

Hong Kong is not alone in its anxiety and anguish. Visiting Israel during the week when Likud's central committee dealt a death blow to its own prime minister's "peace initiative", one is powerfully struck by the intensity of fear among even the most sophisticated Israelis — fear of the PLO (particularly as it adopts the positions Israel has long demanded it adopt), fear of local Palestinians (whose willingness to die for their state appears inexhaustible) and even fear of the prospect of peace (which has never been so close to their grasp).

A visitor seeking to discuss peace prospects is constantly reminded that Israelis have nowhere else to go and thus cannot afford to take any risks or to make a single mistake. He is told that, until Israeli "confidence" is greatly increased, there is not only no way to reach a definitive settlement with the Palestinians

but no way even to discuss one and that the Israeli public is totally unready and unwilling even to think about how an independent Palestinian state might be established and structured so as to serve Israeli interests.

Traumatised by the Second World War and 40 years of hostility and perceived insecurity "as an island in an Arab Sea," Israelis have immense psychological problems in coming to grips with their changed circumstances after 20 months of the intifada and the opening of an American dialogue with the PLO and seem incapable of rationally analysing present realities, future possibilities and their own long-term self-interest.

Indeed, Israelis have placed themselves in a virtually impossible situation. To taste the bitter essence, Americans might try to imagine what life in their country would be like if the European settlers had not virtually exterminated the indigenous people and put the few survivors out of sight and out of mind and if 40 per cent of today's American population were Indians, without basic human rights, doing society's dirty work, smoldering with resentment and visible every day as the inescapable living evidence of the injustice inflicted on their ancestors.

Imagine further that Canada and Mexico were independent Indian states, still unreconciled to the European conquest and colonisation of the land between them and with populations much larger than that of the United States. This would not be a pleasant situation in which to live. Both colonisers and colonised would be progressively degraded and dehumanised. Israelis readily admit that the atmosphere in the Holy Land today is ugly. It could hardly be otherwise.

To burst the psychological barriers blocking progress toward peace, the United States should promptly grant to all current Israeli citizens what Hong Kong's people are seeking from Britain — a right to live and work in America and, in due course, to become American citizens. As in the Hong Kong case, such a right would have both practical and humanitarian benefits. It would both encourage Israelis to take risks for peace in the Holy Land and at the same time provide those who have had enough with a refuge and a new start in life.

Given the "common values" which Israelis and Americans are commonly held to hold, Israeli immigrants should be easily assimilated and an asset to American society. Indeed thousands of Israelis are already living and working in the U.S.

might finally be ready and willing to address the ultimate question on which peace depends — how a Palestinian state and its relationship with Israel could be structured so as to serve Israeli (as well as Palestinian) interests and to enhance Israeli security and the quality of Israeli lives, so that a majority of Israelis could recognise that it is in their own self-interest to accept Palestine's right to exist in peaceful coexistence with Israel.

No American politician submitting such legislation could be accused of being "anti-Semitic", anti-Jewish" or "anti-Israel".

While according to Israelis such a freedom of choice might not be deemed "pro-Zionist", since it would suggest that a Jewish state might not be the only place for Jewish people to find fulfillment and security, there should be little domestic political risk in supporting such legislation.

Risky or not, it may now be

constructive to break an unspoken taboo, to admit that political Zionism may not have been a good idea and to focus on the wellbeing of those human beings who, either by embracing this ideology or finding themselves in its path, have been its victims.

John V. Whitbeck is an international lawyer working in Paris.

The article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

With their confidence strengthened by such an "insurance policy," a majority of Israelis

are likely finally to be ready and willing to address the ultimate question on which peace depends — how a Palestinian state and its relationship with Israel could be structured so as to serve Israeli (as well as Palestinian) interests and to enhance Israeli security and the quality of Israeli lives, so that a majority of Israelis could recognise that it is in their own self-interest to accept Palestine's right to exist in peaceful coexistence with Israel.

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Second green revolution in India

By T.N. Ashok

INDIA appears headed for a second green revolution. The first revolution of its kind in the mid-sixties, which transformed some northern Indian states like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, into virtual granaries of the country, is now fast spreading to other regions. This optimism stems from this year's projected record production of over 170 million tonnes of foodgrains.

India's fiscal year April 1989-March 1990 may well be the harbinger of agricultural prosperity in the country.

This is in sharp contrast to the performance in the last few years when monsoon failure dealt a crippling blow to the agricultural sector. Stagnation crept into crop output in 1983-84 and it assumed grave dimensions when the drought of 1987 depleted foodstocks to levels unparalleled since 1973.

Futuristic projections indicate that by the year 2000, the country's population would soar to one billion — an increase of 275 million over today's population. And grain production requirement is expected to increase to 235 million, an increase of 84 million from the present output.

To raise foodgrain production to this level in another ten years is a mighty task, given the available state of technology. Also, extension of the same technology may generate ambivalent results. However agricultural experts are optimistic that India should tide

over these problems and match demand with supply. This is because of what Dr. T.V. Sampath, Agriculture Commissioner of the Government of India attributes to "the resilience built into Indian agriculture and that scientific advancement has come into the system."

Accurate forecasting

With the launching of satellites weather forecasting has become more accurate and helps farmers plan their crops better. The successive cycles of droughts and floods have also forced the farmer to wake up from his slumber and find alternative sources of income when operations are hampered.

Not only has dryland farming become more productive, research is on at a furious pace on how to improve strains of drought resistant crops. Plant geneticists, especially at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), are doing commendable research. The variety of seeds released by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and the quantum of fertiliser utilisation have led to a spurt in production.

In India, agriculture accounts for about 13 per cent of industrial production with linkages between the two sectors increasing between 1980 and 1989 on the supply side. More raw materials like oilseeds, cotton, sugar and cane are being made available to industries.

There are also indications of

the green revolution extending towards the east. Eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh have now more or less come within the orbit of what is known as the "prime green revolution" areas, says Prof. G.S. Bhalla of the Centre for Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

In the eastern states, where the rainfall pattern is uniform, there has been a record production of wheat this year, especially in Bihar. In West Bengal, there has been an increase in rice production which has crossed the million tonne mark.

As the country experienced shortfalls in the first three years of the seventh five year plan (1985-89), the government marked up targets and launched the "Special Foodgrains Production Programme."

The programme focused on accelerated completion of irrigation projects and making available adequate quantities of inputs like quality seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, as well as credit facilities. It concentrated on increasing production of five main crops: rice, wheat, maize, arhar (lentil) and gram in 169 districts distributed across 14 states. Consequently, production is likely to go up by 17 to 20 per cent this year. Production of oilseeds and cotton is also expected to record significant increases.

An important feature of agricultural growth during the eighties is its crop composition. The high growth rate of rice has compensated for a slowdown in wheat production. According to the

economic survey of 1988-89, agricultural growth since 1979-80 is almost entirely dependent on productivity rate rather than increases in the area under cultivation.

Following the mid-term appraisal of the seventh plan, a task force was set up to prepare an action plan to achieve food-grain production targets. The main strategy of this special programme was to capitalise on identifiable sources of immediate agricultural growth. An analysis of resources and the agronomic possibilities helps to identify areas with growth potential that could be tapped quickly as also the measure required for achieving this.

On the basis of soil conditions, water accessibility, available technological package, existing level of development and rate of growth over the past two decades, 106 districts were identified for paddy, 72 for wheat, 28 for maize, 20 for lentil and 28 for gram. A target of 52.32 million tonnes of wheat production has been fixed for 1988-89, the thrust areas being (a) increase in area under high yielding varieties, (b) providing high quality seeds at reasonable rates, (c) making available buffer stock seeds, (d) using optimum and balanced doses of fertilisers, (e) rectifying micro nutrient deficiencies, (f) efficient water management to provide irrigation at critical stages of crop growth, (g) timely weed control, and (h) termite control in endemic areas.

The declining trend in pulses production is largely due to the fact that the crop was grown almost entirely in rainfed areas where both acreage and production had either declined or stagnated.

The states where it is grown include Rajasthan, Maharashtra,

Odisha, Orissa, Bihar, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

To increase per capita availability of pulses, the government allowed its import under OGL (Open General Licence). Special emphasis is also being laid on increasing output to a targeted level of 13.3 million tonnes in 1988-89. An outlay of Rs. 38.4 million has been earmarked to implement the schemes for increasing production in identified areas.

As for coarse grains, the total area under its cultivation had declined to about 36 million hectares in 1987-88. Consequently, in the first three years of the seventh plan, production of coarse cereals almost stagnated at 26 million tonnes against 31.2 million tonnes in 1984-85 after attaining a record level of 33.9 million tonnes in 1983-84. This was largely due to diversion of acreage to food grains and cash crops. However, as coarse cereals like jowar, bajra, maize and barley are important items of consumption for the rural poor, efforts are being made to stabilise production at a higher level. The 1988-89 target of 33 million tonnes is likely to be achieved.

Similarly production of pulses

which reached a peak level of 13.36 million tonnes in 1985-86, declined to 11.71 million tonnes in 1986-87 and further to 11.04 million tonnes in 1987-88. Thus in the first three years of the seventh plan, production of pulses also remained below target levels. In fact, net per capita availability per day of pulses declined over the last three decades from 61 grammes in 1951 to 36 grammes in 1987 and further down to 33 grammes for a population of 796.60 million in 1988.

The declining trend in pulses production is largely due to the fact that the crop was grown almost entirely in rainfed areas where both acreage and production had either declined or stagnated.

The states where it is grown include Rajasthan, Maharashtra,



Mechanised replanting of rice and improved insecticides

commercial and regional rural banks. The total agricultural credit disbursed in 1985-86 was Rs. 73.54 billion, which increased to Rs. 76.02 billion during 1986-87 and further to Rs. 82.14 billion during 1987-88. The target for 1988-89 has been fixed at Rs. 117.51 billion.

As part of the major relief

measures to farmers, rates of interests on agricultural loans have been reduced with effect from March 1988. With a view to extending the scope of relief, the Reserve Bank of India has now issued instructions for reducing the rate of interest charged on crop loans from 14 per cent to 12 per cent — PTI feature.

How to clean up the mess

The international environmental mess can be controlled and rolled back only if each country does its share.

By J.I. Bregman

ENVIRONMENTAL pollution problems are neither novel nor unique to mankind. Long before man came on the scene, the terrestrial environment was contaminated, for even nature, with all of its virtues and beauty, injects undesirable and harmful ingredients into the atmosphere and the hydrosphere. Dust, silt, volcanic gas and ash, pollen, and waste products of animals and vegetation immediately spring to mind. But that is only half the natural pollution story. Nature uses some remarkable mechanisms for combating and eliminating its own contamination. Natural dilution by both air and water, bacterial decomposition, solar radiation, and a host of various species of scavengers do a remarkably good job of maintaining a reasonably attractive and hygienic environment.

During the Industrial Revolution, London — like many English and Continental cities — was periodically plagued by cholera epidemics such as the one that took 50,000 lives in 1831. Until the twentieth century, dysentery and typhoid fever were rampant among urban populations. Various forms of hepatitis, now known to be transmitted by water, have always occurred during wartime among large concentrations of soldiers. In the Napoleonic wars and in our own Civil War, the opposing armies were burdened by "field jaundice," possibly spelling the difference between victory and defeat at Waterloo, Gettysburg, Shiloh, and Antietam.

Accomplishments threatened

Has the human race learned from these historic problems or are we doomed to repeat history again and again? What is the international situation today vis-a-vis pollution and its control? The evidence shows that:

- The historic ruins at the Acropolis in Athens are being destroyed by air pollution. The famed city of Piraeus is covered with a yellow cloud of air pollution. Beaches up and down the Greek coast are dangerous for bathing because of high fecal coliform counts, as the historic city of Athens lacks adequate treatment facilities for human sewage.

No known attempt to prevent pollution was made until the end of the fourteenth century, when an antisomke ordinance forbidding the use of "sea salt" in London was established by royal proclamation. It is believed that at least one violator of law was put to death by order of Edward I. Nevertheless, by 10, a British diarist named Evelyn acidly commented that "the City of London resembles the face of a mother who, the Court of Vulcan, emblem or the suburbs of Hell in an Assembly of Rational tattues and the Imperial Seal of Our Incomparable Monarch."

added that in approaching London, one "sooner smells than sees the City to which he refers." His pamphlet concluded his observations about the effects of this blight on health, pleasure, and vegetation as ill as to the "Hands and Faces"

speaking of Britain's dumps and landfills, recently said, "No one knows what's in them. God knows what kind of time bomb we are sitting on. It is little short of a miracle that we have not had disasters from the escape of poisons into our water supplies, or from gas explosions, although we have come perilously close to it."

Each year, about 2 billion tons of waste are generated by the 12 member countries of the European Community. Industrial waste accounts for an estimated 160 million tons, of which up to 30 million tons are classed as toxic or dangerous.

One of the Netherlands' most pressing environmental problems is soil contamination. In this country, where a great deal of the land has been wrested from the sea, man is busy destroying his hard-won gains.

The USSR has environmental problems galore, but none matches the recent Chernobyl incident. More than 135,000 persons were evacuated from communities near the plant. Their cities are now ghost towns that stand as permanent testaments to man's ineptitude.

Brazil is destroying its priceless Amazon forests (as well as their human protectors) as the country industrialises. The impact on world weather may be dramatic. Brazilian leaders rebel at attending international conferences where they may be asked to slow down or stop this world threat.

France has suffered from chemical factory accidents that polluted the Rhine and Loire rivers. In Lille, one of France's major population centres, accidents at chemical plants sent ammonia clouds over large parts of the city.

Large parts of Vietnam still have not recovered from the Agent Orange that was sprayed there. Nor have many U.S. soldiers and Vietnamese peasants.

The holes in the ozone layer at the earth's poles threaten humanity with melanoma, radiation illness, and other health problems. Yet, until recently, the United States hesitated to do much about the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) that have been directed at helping to create the holes. Now that industrialised nations are ready to gradually stop CFC production, Third World countries are asking that we bribe them by giving them free replacement materials to get them to cooperate.

Acid rain has soured U.S.-Canadian relations for a long

time. The problem is caused by the much-discussed power plant emissions on the U.S. side of the border and the little-discussed (and poorly controlled) masses of sulfur dioxide coming from paper mills on the Canadian side.

A barge full of wastes from New York's sewage roamed the seas last year, looking for a place to land.

How to clean it up

The above are but a few of the international environmental horrors stories one can tell. The critical question to be faced is, how are we going to clean up this mess?

There are many technological answers to that question. Each can mitigate a part of the problem, but one overriding ingredient must be present or everything else is in vain: Each government must truly want to clean up the mess and must do it rather than just give lip service to the concept. Far too many countries have adopted the attitude that a clean environment is a nice thing to have, but it is much more important that their people have the jobs that industry can bring to them. They take the attitude that when the standard of living rises, then they will begin worrying about cleaning up the mess being created. This attitude must be changed. Governments must stop saying the right things and start doing them.

When the improbable recruitment of most of the world's leaders to the cause of preserving the environment, rather than just talking about it, occurs, a variety of tools will be available to do the work. Laws tailored to each country's problems are attainable and enforceable. Many countries have laws on their books that are either too weak or too strong and, most important of all, are enforced laxly or not at all. Such laws should deal with the following:

- Air pollution emissions. Particulates, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides can be controlled and minimised.

- Water quality. Discharges of pollutants and toxics from industrial plants can be controlled.

- Sewage treatment. In many Third World countries, just enforcing primary treatment requirements — the removal of solids and about 40 per cent of the organics — would be a major step forward. In the more "civilised" countries, secondary treatment — removal of at least 85 per cent of the organics — must be enforced.

- Hazardous and toxic wastes. Abandoned or active dumping sites can be identified. Further

dumping can be stopped, and work on cleanup can get under way.

Countries that lack the funding that the United States puts into this effort can develop their own streamlined, cost-effective techniques that, in practice, may clean up sites faster and more effectively than the cumbersome procedures the United States follows.

- Chemical hazards. The use of certain very hazardous pesticides like DDT can be banned, as can aerosol containers containing CFCs.

Recycling is another major technology that can be employed by almost any country. It requires the good-will of the people or industries doing the recycling, as well as reasonable, attainable programmes being set up and enforced. Applied at the household level, this approach can be simplicity itself. It merely requires separation of paper, plastics, and metal for pickup or purchase by local authorities.

In the case of industry, recycling is accompanied by reuse. Although initiating such procedures is expensive, in the end the firm saves money and protects the environment. In the United States, the National Association of Manufacturers is stressing recycling and reuse to its member industries as a practical and economical way of being a good neighbour.

In March, more than 100 nations meeting in Switzerland concluded a treaty controlling toxic waste exports. The pact requires the government of an exporting country to obtain a prior written permit from the government of the country to which dangerous residue is to be shipped. This step has been hailed. Egypt's Mostafa Tolba, executive director of the U.N. Environment Programme, has said that "it has signaled the international resolve to eliminate the menace that hazardous wastes pose to the welfare of our shared environment and to the health of all the world's peoples."

Small minority parties that may be captured or become allied with other forces that have their own axes to grind are not the best way to go, however. Rather, the major parties must be bipartisan (multi-partisan in some countries) in their approach to a cleaner environment. The concept of a clean planet must be shared by all political parties, since people of all political persuasions want a better world.

When the improbable recruitment of most of the world's leaders to the cause of preserving the environment, rather than just talking about it, occurs, a variety of tools will be available to do the work.

Laws tailored to each country's problems are attainable and enforceable. Many countries have laws on their books that are either too weak or too strong and, most important of all, are enforced laxly or not at all. Such laws should deal with the following:

- The treaty on the export of hazardous waste, while only a minor achievement, means that most countries are at least talking to each other about pollution control.

On the positive side

There are a number of positive developments that bode well for the future, such as the following:

- The treaty on the export of hazardous waste, while only a minor achievement, means that most countries are at least talking to each other about pollution control.

The international environmental mess can be controlled and rolled back only if each country will do its share instead of just having its representatives make beautiful speeches that cover the lack of action. We've all been alerted to the problem by many tragically visible signs. Now is the time to insist that each country, take strong action to protect itself and its neighbours. As far as pollution is concerned, this is one world that has no boundaries. The approach to overcoming pollution must follow the same philosophy.

- Two important European meetings were held in March. The first, on "Saving the Ozone Layer," was organised by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and brought 700 senior delegates from 123 countries. The second meeting, in The Hague, was hosted by the prime ministers of France, the Netherlands, and Norway, and attended by leaders of 24 countries. A declaration promoting a new U.N. agency to fight global warming was the key result.

- Waste associations of seven European countries have formed the European Federation of Special Waste Industries.

- In the Netherlands, specially designed trucks pick up paints, solvents, and motor oils from communities for regular disposal at supervised facilities, such as paper and glass are collected.

- Denmark has two furnaces that incinerate about 100,000 metric tons of organic and oily

material annually at an efficiency of more than 99 per cent. Some 540 municipal incinerators throughout the European Community dispose of about 25 per cent of the member countries' wastes each year. Discussions now under way could result in each of the member countries setting emission standards on the release of acids, dioxins, sulfur dioxide, and heavy metals.

- West Germany has set a mandatory deposit fee on plastic containers for all kinds of drinks.

- The Netherlands is providing fiscal incentives to buyers of small and medium-sized cars fitted with catalytic converters. The U.K. has preferential pricing on unleaded gasoline.

- American congressmen have been talking to the Brazilian government about possibly instituting a programme through the World Bank that would trade some debt forgiveness for saving portions of the Amazon forests.

The glaring absence of most developing countries from the list of countries taking the corrective actions cited above should be noted.

This article has stressed what individual nations should be doing. Obviously, international agreements can and should be signed and observed with regard to problems that affect the world as a whole — ocean dumping, the ozone layer, destruction of rain forests, and acid rain, to name a few.

The international environmental mess can be controlled and rolled back only if each country will do its share instead of just having its representatives make beautiful speeches that cover the lack of action. We've all been alerted to the problem by many tragically visible signs. Now is the time to insist that each country, take strong action to protect itself and its neighbours. As far as pollution is concerned, this is one world that has no boundaries. The approach to overcoming pollution must follow the same philosophy.

J.I. Bregman is president of an environmental consulting firm, Bregman & Company, Inc. He is a former U.S. deputy assistant secretary of the interior for water quality, was the first chairman of the Illinois Air Pollution Control Board, and served as a federal commissioner on the Ohio River Sanitary Commission. The article is reprinted from *The World & I* magazine.

Sports

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — A new plan to foil soccer violence by use of fan identification cards got off to a less-than-successful start Sunday, with police calling the measure unenforceable.

The Netherlands became the first nation to introduce identification cards for soccer fans, but the identification checks were dropped at both of Sunday's matches.

The ID card system was ordered by the government and put into effect by the Royal Dutch Soccer Federation to stem the rioting and vandalism that has plagued major matches here, as elsewhere in Western Europe.

But the soccer club FC Den Haag, whose fans are considered the nation's most violent, defied the government and refused to implement the computer-controlled security system at its stadium in The Hague.

In addition, fans found ways to circumvent the card system. Hundreds of FC Den Haag tickets were sold to arch-rival Ajax of Amsterdam fans at Amsterdam's central railway station Sunday morning.

Although it is generally agreed that soccer violence is a problem, identify card plans tend to bring widespread opposition in the Netherlands. The idea evokes for many the harsh five-year occupation by the Nazis, who decreed identification papers mandatory for Dutch adults.

On Sunday, high tensions caused by the identity card issue brought out heavy police security at both the Den Haag-Ajax match and the other game of the day, Feyenoord Rotterdam at Utrecht.

Five arrests were reported for disorderly conduct at the Den Haag-Ajax match, with no arrests reported at Utrecht.



Standing out from the crowd: The new Dutch system plans to track every supporter in the country.

New Dutch ID card scheme: police wonder if it's workable

The FC Utrecht management initially put the ID card system into effect in selling tickets to Feyenoord Rotterdam fans, but soon gave up and allowed hundreds of Rotterdam fans to withdraw the passes after they tried to storm a gate.

"The threat was so serious we had to let common sense prevail," said Utrecht police spokesman Joop Osterbaan. "One has to wonder if this is enforceable."

Critics say the plan is unworkable, since its efficacy depends both on the local club's compliance and on officials' ability to tell a visiting fan from a home fan — and keep them apart.

During high-risk matches, such as those on Sunday, police riot squad officers meet special soccer fans directly to the stadiums, where they are kept separate from home-team supporters.

However, such measures are useless in keeping track of visiting fans who travel by car or on other trains and buy tickets set aside for home-team supporters.

"We're only concerned with public order — can we handle it or can't we," said Hague police spokesman Rob Osterbaan. He said the ID card issue was really between the soccer clubs and the soccer federation, a private organization.

But the court dismissed that claim, arguing that governmental authorities were obligated to help the soccer federation fight violence.

Iraq ends preparations to stage Palestine tournament

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq has completed preparations to host the third Palestine Youth Soccer Championship starting Aug. 31, Iraqi Olympics committee chairman Karim Al-Mullah said Sunday.

Mullah, who is also chairman of the organizing committee, told the Associated Press that 14 teams will take part in the Inter-Arab tournament.

They will play 20 matches in Baghdad and the northern cities of Mosul and Kirkuk in the four-group championship, which was scheduled to end Sept. 14.

The host country and North Yemen, which are in group 2, will play the first match on Baghdad's Al-Shaab stadium while current holders Saudi Arabia will have a tough task against Kuwait in group 3 in their match in Kirkuk Sept. 2.

Mullah said the International Football Federation, FIFA, has agreed that Iraq host the tournament despite banning Iraq's youth teams from international tournaments for two years last month. The tournament is not organized by FIFA.

The international soccer body imposed the ban on Baghdad's under-16, under-20 and under-23 teams because the Iraqis had fielded an over-age player in a youth tournament held in Saudi Arabia in February.

Mullah said Iraq's under-23 team returns from a training camp in Hungary Monday with a new lineup after its defeat in regional and international championships.

"We're totally satisfied with our youth team, which will be the frontrunner in the tournament," Mullah said.

The other competing countries are Morocco, Jordan, Palestine, Oman, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, South Yemen, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

The event will cost more than 1.5 million Iraqi dinars (\$4 million) to stage.

6 die in Nigeria stadium

ZURICH (R) — The International Football Federation (FIFA) said on Monday it had received reports of overcrowding at a Nigerian soccer stadium where at least six people died in extreme heat during a match on the weekend.

FIFA spokesman Gnido Tognoni said his reports appeared to show that too many people were in the stadium for Saturday's World Cup qualifying match between Nigeria and Angola in spite of a FIFA warning that capacity should be limited.

"As the stadium was under

reconstruction we explicitly asked the Nigerian Football Association to reduce the number of spectators for safety reasons and to ensure adequate crowd control measures," he told Reuters.

Tognoni said an investigation would be carried out once reports were received from the referee and the Nigerian soccer authorities.

Local newspapers suggested that 20,000 extra fans were in the stadium for the first international game to be played in the capital in almost two years. Nigeria won 1-0 to stay at the top of the Africa Zone Group C with seven points.

Bird to get \$6 million in a year

BOSTON (AP) — Boston Celtics forward Larry Bird has become the first athlete in any team sport to sign a contract worth more than \$6 million for one year, sources have told the Associated Press.

Bird negotiated the contract last fall, before undergoing foot surgery that forced him to miss virtually all of the season.

Terms of the contract were not disclosed until this weekend, when the National Basketball Association released its team salary cap and the figure was confirmed by sources requesting anonymity.

The nine-time all-star, who has led the Celtics to three NBA titles, played only six games last season because of surgery to remove bone spurs in his feet.

He gave the team a shock when he returned to scrumming two weeks ago and promptly broke some small bones in his back during a collision and fall.

After determining that the bones were not weight-bearing, physicians indicated the forward would quickly be able to return to play.

E. Germany denies steroid use

BONN (AP) — A high-ranking East German sports official denied Sunday that swimmers from his country take steroid drugs.

Egon Mueller, general secretary of East Germany's competitive swimming association, spoke as the 1989 European swimming championships began in Bonn.

The championships are the first major international swim competition since a series of West German news reports in June alleged drug use among East German athletes, including swimmers.

"This discussion about doping makes me sick," Mueller told reporters.

He said "there are no drugs in East German sports" and that the "toughest anti-doping program" has been developed in com-

petitions.

Other East German stars in Bonn are Heike Friedrich, Kathrin Nord, Daniela Hunger, Katrin Meissner, Manuela Stellmach and Uwe Dassler, all Olympic champions.

One setback for the East German team came last week when Silke Hoerner, the women's 200-meter breaststroke Olympic champion, suffered an injury in training and had to drop out.

Competition in Bonn began Sunday with first-round matches in water polo, in which world champion Yugoslavia defeated Romania 13-9. The current European titlist, the Soviet Union, edged the Netherlands 9-6, and France trounced Sweden 10-3. In later matches, it was Bulgaria over Austria 10-5 and Spain in front of West Germany 14-12.

Mansell's win leaves everything to play for

McLaren's invincibility blown open

BUDAPEST (R) — Nigel Mansell's outstanding victory in Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix has thrown the world drivers' championship open once again and finally buried the myth of McLaren's invincibility over their Formula One rivals.

The Briton, who charged through the field from 12th on the grid to take the chequered flag, won in such style that even McLaren team director Ron Dennis was left gasping with admiration.

With both of his Honda-powered cars unhampered by technical problems and clearly beaten by the superior handling of Man-

sell's Ferrari, Dennis had little choice but to admit McLaren had been well beaten.

"You can't win them all," he said. "McLaren were better than us today and in more competitive shape. They deserved to win and are to be congratulated on it."

Only Brazilian world champion Ayrton Senna's individual brilliance enabled him to claim second place behind Mansell, ahead of Belgian Thierry Boutsen who claimed a well-deserved third place for the Williams team.

Patrese could not be taken consolation from his domination of qualifying and the knowledge that he had held off Senna's challenge for the lead for two-thirds of a gripping race.

After 10 rounds of the 16-race

world championship, McLaren have won seven races, Ferrari two and Williams one — but the hungaroring thriller was the first in which McLaren were beaten with both cars still running on the track at the finish.

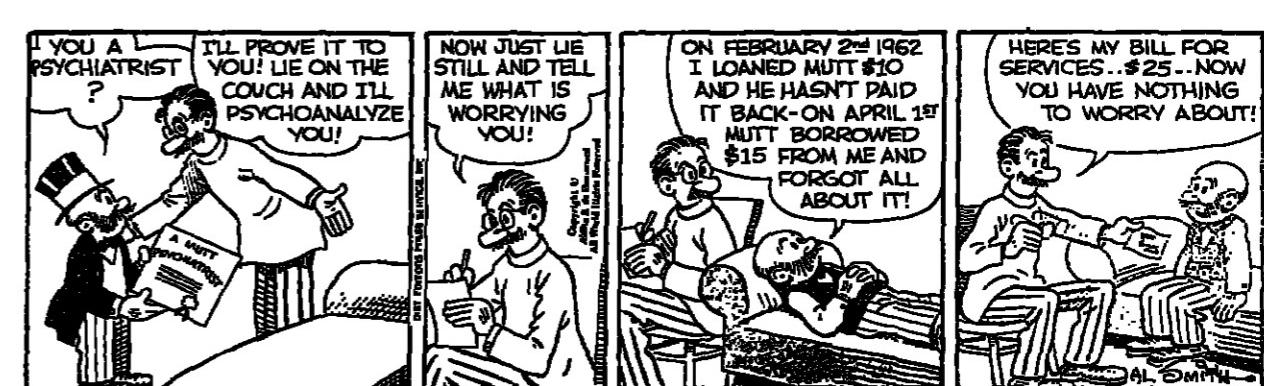
In the season-opening Brazilian Grand Prix in March, Mansell won unexpectedly after Senna crashed and Prost was forced to limp home without a clutch.

In Canada, Boutsen inherited victory after Senna retired with engine trouble three laps from the end in a rain-hit race in which Prost was an early casualty.

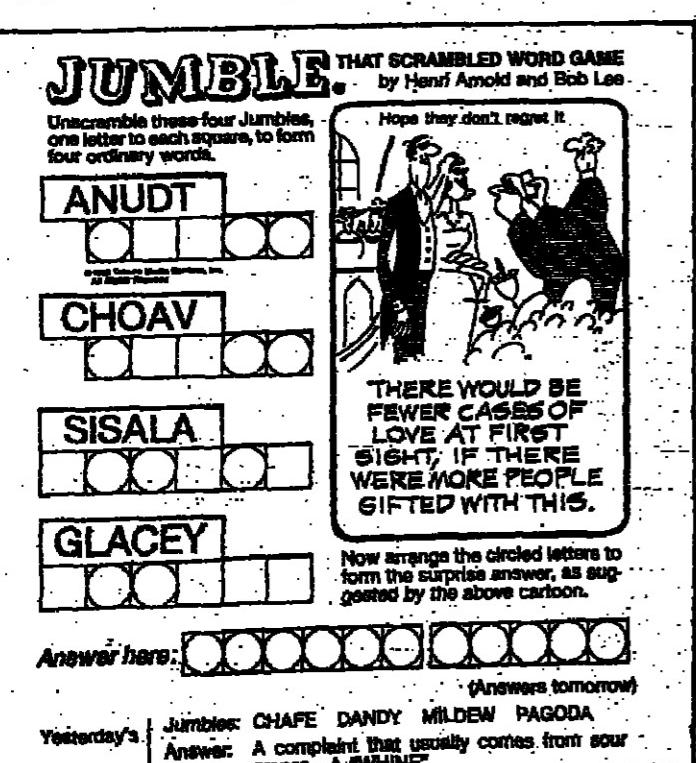
Peanuts



Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp



Jordan Times

World News

Police, protesters clash in Belfast

Violence erupts on Ulster anniversary

BELFAST (AP) — Police appealed for children to be kept indoors as sporadic violence erupted in Roman Catholic areas of west Belfast Monday, the 20th anniversary of the arrival of British troops.

Police fired plastic bullets at rioting youths who hurled gas-line bombs and hijacked and set fire to buses and trucks, but no injuries were reported, the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) said. Bus service to some parts of the city was suspended to prevent more hijackings.

A police spokesman said many of those involved in the disturbances were young.

"Their parents have a responsibility to keep them off the streets and out of trouble," he said, speaking anonymously in keeping with British custom.

"We would call on everyone to show common sense and restraint and not become involved in street disorder."

Chief Constable Hugh Annesley had appealed Sunday for calm across Northern Ireland during events marking the day 20 years earlier that British troops entered Londonderry to separate rebellious Catholics from charging police. Troops moved into Belfast a day later.

"I would like community leaders, church leaders, politicians of all persuasions, to encourage those in the community from one side to the other to please keep calm, to avoid being provoked and to let this very difficult time pass by," Annesley said. He also

urged parents to keep their children indoors.

Protestants marched Saturday in a parade in Londonderry to mark the 300th anniversary of a defeat over the Catholic King James II. Catholics staged their own march Sunday up the Falls Road in west Belfast.

Republicans planned to gather in Londonderry Monday night to march through Waterloo Place, where British soldiers first arrived on Aug. 14, 1969, after sectarian riots had engulfed the city for two days and nights.

Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein, the legal political wing of the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA), told Sunday's marchers: "We have a lot to be proud of because we have come a long way in 20 years. Our opponents have failed to defeat us."

Adams praised the IRA as "the real freedom fighters."

Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, a leader in the Catholic civil rights marches of the 1960s, told the cheering crowd:

"The British army came in 1969 because we were being attacked, but because for the first time since the beginning of this state — this misbegotten tuppence ha'penny bastardised state — we were fighting back."

"The reasons they are still here

20 years after is because we are still fighting back."

Looking back over 20 years, McAliskey complained that Catholics still suffer more unemployment than Protestants.

"Everything we got out of them we squeezed out of them," McAliskey said. "Yet it was nothing, because every time we gained something they clawed it back."

Security forces were on alert throughout the province because of fears of an IRA bombing campaign coinciding with the anniversary.

But rioting was sporadic and the two big weekend marches by Protestants and Roman Catholics passed off peacefully.

The IRA, fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland, planted a bomb in Londonderry Saturday aimed at troops and police checking the route of a Protestant march.

It demolished a city centre bar but no one was injured.

Police thwarted four other IRA bombing attempts and a total of seven people were arrested.

In Belfast, a shrapnel bomb was found in a manhole, and in Londonderry and another was discovered in a car.

IRA supporters have been urged to picket security force bases Monday as a protest.

British police on the mainland have warned the public to be vigilant in case of IRA attacks and security has been intensified at British military bases in Europe.

It

20

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Solidarity free trade union of Poland enjoys the overwhelming support of Polish workers. The main shipyard at Gdansk and about 430 factories staged a "warning strike" Friday to support the union's

pressure on the Communist government for political and economic reforms.

Walesa continues efforts to form non-communist coalition

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa pressed ahead Monday with efforts to form a non-communist coalition government in Poland, but an expected meeting with the heads of two pro-communist parties failed to take place.

Solidarity officials said Walesa had an "important meeting" early Monday but declined to give any details before the Solidarity leader sped out of Warsaw by car.

They said Walesa had not met Prime Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak, who called Saturday for talks with the Solidarity chairman to try to end almost two weeks of political deadlock over forming a government.

Kiszczak wants Solidarity to enter a "grand coalition," but it has refused to join a Communist-led government.

Instead, Walesa proposed forming a coalition with the Un-

ited Peasants' Party (UPP) and the Democratic Party, but Solidarity officials said he had not met the leaders of the two parties.

The issues have not advanced far enough to allow meetings which would have a final and decisive character," Solidarity aide Jaroslaw Kaczynski told reporters.

But he added: "A meeting has taken place in the restaurant of the Europejski hotel (in Warsaw) and it was an important meeting."

Solidarity aides said at the weekend that Walesa would meet UPP leader Roman Malinowski and Jerzy Jozwiak, head of the Democratic Party. The two small parties have been obedient to the communists for decades but want a more independent role.

Solidarity officials held exploratory talks with the two par-

ties last week but the latter avoided full endorsement of Walesa's proposal. Malinowski is believed to be less enthusiastic about the offer than many UPP members.

Solidarity says Kiszczak lacks public trust because he played an important role as interior minister in suppressing the opposition movement under martial law in 1981. The union was re-legalised in April.

Solidarity believes it has a right to a major role in government after its electoral triumph over the communists in June. It says Kiszczak's appointment proves the Communist Party wants to keep its monopoly on power.

Solidarity aid Kaczynski suggested that Walesa might be considering becoming prime minister himself, although Walesa denied this Sunday.

Kiszczak also faces labour un-

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1989

Column 10

Wedding — hot & happy event for mafia boss

PALERMO, Sicily (AP) — After five years on the run, a convicted mafia boss has been tracked down by detectives at a wedding reception, police reported. Vincenzo Sorco was convicted in absentia two years ago of criminal association and complicity in drug trafficking. He was sentenced to seven years in prison. But his whereabouts were unknown until police spotted him at a recent wedding party in Palermo. The agents followed Sorco home, where he was living under a false name, and arrested him.

Mayor bungles 'star' ceremony

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Comedian Joan Rivers accepted a star in the Hollywood walk of fame while peaking fun at the official conducting the ceremony, who mistakenly called her Jean Collins. "Both Joan Collins and I are thrilled about this," Rivers quipped to Hollywood's "honorary mayor" and walk of fame chairman Johnny Grant, who got his jaws mixed up. "I blew it," Grant said after the ceremony. "But she was a good sport about my boo-boos and it didn't mar the ceremony." Collins is a star of the TV show "Dynasty." About 500 people were on hand to watch the 36-year-old Rivers receive the 1,200th star in the walk of fame.

Chain烟 man from nicotine

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — A man who chained himself to his sofa for three weeks to stop smoking is a free man and says it feels wonderful to have kicked the habit. Thomas Warren, 42, unlocked the 7.6-metre steel cable that had been attached to a 127-kilogramme sofa is his living room and fashioned around his neck like a dog collar. He celebrated his freedom by going out to dinner with friends and running 3.2 kilometres at midnight. "During the run I felt like a bird," said Warren, a former marathon runner who developed severe respiratory problems from 20 years of smoking. "My breathing afterward felt smooth and controlled. You just can't beat that. I feel great." Warren, an artist, dog trainer and drug counselor, had his friends chain him July 9. He had tried several methods to break his pack-a-day habit, including acupuncture, smoking anonymous and meditation. "In my hometown, everyone who knew me laughed and thought I really was a ridiculous person for doing this," Warren said. "But the reward is what this did for other people around the world with smoking addictions. I feel like a millionaire."

Jackson to star in raisin commercial

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Jackson is starring in a commercial for the California raisins. Jackson helped create and choreograph an ensemble of hip-animated clay raisins, including one modelled on himself, for the commercial, in which he and six backup singers perform a Jackson-esque version of the motown classic "I Heard It Through The Grapevine." The raisins appear before a screaming audience of animated fruit. The 67-second commercial will start running soon in 5,700 U.S. movie theaters. Sixty-and 30-second versions are scheduled for television broadcast starting in mid-September. Bob Phimay, director of advertising for the Raisin Board, declined to say what Jackson was paid. He reportedly made \$5 million two years ago for a four-part ad campaign for Pepsi.

Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	15	22	26-32 Cloudy
ATHENS	22	27	34-35 Clear
BAHRAIN	31	35	40-104 Clear
BANGKOK	24	75	32-50 Cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	53	22-71 Clear
CARDO	22	72	33-91 Clear
CHICAGO	15	55	29-62 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	17	63	21-70 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	16	57	26-72 Cloudy
GENEVA	17	63	31-58 Cloudy
HONG KONG	28	62	22-30 Clear
ISTANBUL	15	70	29-64 Clear
LONDON	15	55	24-75 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	20	65	24-74 Clear
MADRID	18	64	35-87 Clear
MOSCOW	30	85	49-104 Clear
MONTREAL	16	64	26-70 Cloudy
NEW YORK	25	62	33-91 Cloudy
PARIS	21	70	29-62 Cloudy
SYDNEY	18	64	25-77 Clear
TOKYO	09	45	17-63 Clear
VIENNA	13	59	28-62 Clear

Secrecy veil remains tight on Columbia trip

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — The crew of the shuttle Columbia maintained the official silence on its voyage after returning safely to Earth from a military mission believed to include the deployment of a spy satellite.

"We had a great time," air force Colonel Mark Brown said after the Columbia glided to a pinpoint landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California early Sunday.

Neil Armstrong, the other four astronauts had much else to say about the five-day, one-hour and 56-minute flight, the first for the Country's oldest shuttle in more than 3½ years.

The crew was resting Monday but will return to the Johnson Space Center on Tuesday to begin a series of briefings about their flight, officials said.

The five astronauts and their wives returned home to Houston late Sunday afternoon. They were greeted at Ellington field by their families and about 300 cheering friends and co-workers.

"It wasn't nice, it was fantastic," pilot Richard Richards, a navy commander and one of three space rookies on the flight, told the crowd.

"Samperon and Pugay both are serving 27-year sentences for murder," police said.

"Our mission went perfectly

smooth," said Brown, a mission specialist and another first-timer in space. "The vehicle was flawless."

A news blackout ordered by the Department of Defense prevailed over the entire flight, and only a few brief announcements broke the official silence. Even the landing was closed to the public.

The main goal of the mission was widely believed to be deployment of a powerful, 10-tonne spy satellite that can take highly detailed photographs of military installations, troop movements and other targets around the world. Such a satellite would help the United States verify Soviet compliance with arms treaties.

Air Force Secretary Donald Rice confirmed last week that the astronauts had deployed a satellite several hours after blastoff Tuesday from Cape Canaveral, Florida, but he would not elaborate about its purpose.

The astronauts also were believed to have conducted experiments related to a planned space-based missile defence system and performed tests aimed at determining the feasibility of monitoring military sites from space.

The flight was the first for

Columbia since January 1986, when the spaceship flew on a mission that landed just 10 days before the Challenger explosion, which killed seven astronauts.

The mission was the 30th shuttle flight overall. Three more shuttle flights are planned this year and nine are scheduled in 1990.

ned missions resumed last September. Columbia eventually was overhauled, undergoing more than 250 modifications.

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The flight was the first for

Hostage drama in Philippine prison

DAVAO CITY, Philippines (AP) — Fifteen inmates seized

15 people, including an Australian missionary, during religious services in the city jail and demanded Monday that they be allowed to escape in a bus, officials said.

The inmates seized the hostages Sunday afternoon at the metropolitan district command detention centre and set a deadline of 3 p.m. (0700 GMT) Monday for authorities to meet their demands. Later, officials said the gunmen agreed to wait another day as negotiators considered the demands.

Hostages included Jackie Hamill, an Australian lay missionary, and a nine-year-old boy, officials said. Police said Miss Hamill, 36, of Sydney, arrived in Davao City July 17 and was working with the Joyful Assemblies of God, a group that organizes religious services for inmates.

Hundreds of armed police surrounded the detention centre in the heart of the Philippines' third largest city, about 960 kilometres southeast of Manila, as negotiations continued.

Justice Under-Secretary Silvestre Bello said the inmates demanded a getaway bus and promised to free the hostages after a four-hour head start.

Bello said he told the convicts that this might take some time to arrange because the military opposed it. He said the convicts

are serving 27-year sentences for murder, police said.

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